

Message Text

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50

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-02 FRB-03 OMB-01

TAR-01 SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-01 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 CEA-01 NSC-05 SS-15 EA-06 NEA-09 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 FEAE-00 /121 W
----- 123073

R 121105Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3930

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 717

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNCTAD, EGEN, ETRD, SW

SUBJECT: DAKAR CONFERENCE ON COMMODITIES, FEBRUARY 4-8

REF: (A) STATE 29167; (B) STOCKHOLM 510

1. CONTRARY TO INITIAL SWEDISH PLANS (REF B), T. WESTLUND OF
MULTILATERAL DIVISION OF MFA/COMMERCE RESPONSIBLE FOR PRIMARY
PRODUCTS WAS SENT FROM STOCKHOLM TO ATTEND CONFERENCE AS
"INVITED GUEST". COMMENTS WHICH FOLLOW ARE BASED ON TALKS
WITH WESTLUND AND WITH S. BRATTSTROM WHO IS DEPUTY CHIEF OF
MULTILATERAL DIVISION AND PRINCIPAL OFFICER IN MFA/COMMERCE
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RESPONSIBLE FOR FOLLOWING THE DAKAR CONFERENCE.

2. BOTH SOURCES DESCRIBED CONFERENCE AS HCG BEEN GOOD, WELL-MANAGED, AND USEFUL -- FROM SWEDISH STANDPOINT. MAJOR ATTENTION, THEY SAID, WAS DEVOTED TO COOPERATIVE EFFORTS TO CREATE "SOLIDARITY" AMONG NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND THERE WAS LITTLE DIRECT REFERENCE IN DISCUSSIONS TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THEY FELT THAT THE ACTION PROGRAM NEED NOT LEAD TO CONFRONTATION WITH DEVELOPED NATIONS. WESTLUND THOUGHT THE LDC'S WERE REALISTIC ABOUT THEIR POSITION. BRATTSTROM DID INDICATE THAT VIEWS AMONG THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES WERE NOT ENTIRELY HARMONIOUS AND REFERRED TO THE SPECIAL FUND WHICH IS TO BE CREATED TO FINANCE PRICE STABILIZATION AND BUFFER STOCKS OF RAW MATERIALS. INITIALLY THERE WAS MENTIONED A FIGURE OF \$6 BILLION TO BE CONTRIBUTED BY THE OPEC COUNTRIES BUT ALL REFERENCE TO THE SIZE OF THE FUND WAS ELIMINATED IN THE END.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON COMMODITIES SESSION (FEB. 10-21), BOTH SOURCES FELT THAT THE DAKAR MEETING AND THE IDEAS GENERATED WOULD NOT AFFECT THE LDC PARTICIPATION TO ANY SIGNIFICANT DEGREE. THE LDC'S, HOWEVER, PROBABLY WILL ATTEMPT TO HAVE THEIR VIEWS PRESENTED DURING THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA IN SEPTEMBER. THIS IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, IS ONLY A GUESS, THEY SAID.

4. AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS, WESTLUND DESCRIBED THE ALGERIANS AND THE SENEGALESE AS INFLUENTIAL LEADERS. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THE ROLE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIA, YUGOSLAVIA OR INDONESIA.

5. ON THE CALLS BY USG AND OTHERS AT THE 29TH UNGA FOR LDC MAJORITY TO RESPECT UNGA'S STATUS AND NOT ATTEMPT TO STEAM-ROLL THEIR IDEAS, BRATTSTROM RAISED THIS POINT AND, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, SAID THAT THE NON-ALIGNED REPRESENTATIVES DID NOT APPEAR TO HAVE GIVEN ANY THOUGHT TO IT DURING THE CONFERENCE.

6. COMMENT. SINCE THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT POLICY MAKERS HAVE ATTEMPTED IN VARIOUS FORA TO TAKEUP THE CAUSE OF LDC'S, THE MILD OR FAVORABLE COMMENTS BY THE SWEDISH REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DAKAR CONFERENCE ARE NOT SURPRISING.
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